

Women's Societies

SUGGESTIONS.

By Miss C. L. Campbell.

"No part of a prayer need be spent in persuading God; He is always willing."

Program on Japan.

Japan is the subject filling hearts and prayers for September.

Should you want a Japanese play write this paper for "A Call From Japan," simple and easy to put on, and given you for the asking.

For a meeting of Juniors get together beforehand a small company of workers to write the invitations to the meeting on small maps of Japan, cut out of colored paper. This rhyme might be used:

"To this society, every chap
Must come on Friday, dressed as a
Jap."

You will think of many other ways to express it.

Also at this preliminary meeting have them make a game, similar to old-time "authors," using names of missionaries, four to each of our stations. But sad to relate, Susaki and Okazaki have only two each, so these will have to be combined.

For example, write at the top of four cards Takamatsu; then on one write, Rev. S. M. Erickson; on another, Rev. A. P. Hassell; on another, Rev. J. W. Hassell, and on the fourth, Miss M. J. Atkinson. These four making a "book."

When the day of meeting comes, have your Juniors play a game of missionaries, as they would a game of "Authors."

Later, start a spirit of competition to find out which of these missionaries are married, and add the wife's name.

All this information can be had from the last page of the Missionary Survey, or from a Prayer Calendar.

At this meeting have on the wall a large map of Japan, which you can easily sketch on a sheet.

At each of our stations make a small mark, or write the initial letter; have eight members bring up the names of the stations and place them, telling how many workers each station has, and how many they would like to have.

Put up also in large letters these messages:

"Japan needs teachers now," and "Japan needs you," and "What are you giving to Japan?"

Have someone read this message from Mrs. Erickson, of Japan: "You see we 'Japanese' sometimes feel that the Church at home does not quite realize the importance of the work that she is trying to do out here, and we are simply delighted when we get evidence to the contrary."

And then have some one read this song of victory from a Japanese leper, which Mrs. Erickson sends for this page:

In All Things, Victory!

1.

He hears me pray to him upon the deep

When masts are gone, and tattered sails are blown

By winds that drive my frail boat out to sea;

He hears and sends the wind that wafts me home.

Refrain.

Naught that can come shall bring
despair to me,
Gaining in all things more than victory!

2.

He hears me pray to him when I am lost
Amid wild mountains and no path can see;
He saves me from the beasts and from the night,
And gives the comfort of his strength to me.

3.

He hears me pray to him when my tired feet
Are toiling o'er the desert's burning sand;
Through his own blood revives my fainting soul,
And to green pastures leads me by the hand.

4.

The limits of the earth are wide and vast,
And vaster still its shining dome of blue,
Yet through this space I always hear his voice,
"O little one," he says, "I died for you."

5.

My Lord in me has found a dwelling-place,
And I in him. Oh, glorious crown to gain,
To be his temple! Gladly I will face
In his great strength all bitterness and pain!

Composed by Kenkichi Nagata, an inmate of the Government Hospital for Lepers at Oshima, Japan. Translated by Lois Johnson Erickson.

Missions in Sunday-school.

With a good map of Africa in view, and helpful remarks as you go along, have read from different classes, these news items culled from Doughty's "Call of the World."

1. Africa has 843 different languages and dialects.

2. There are in Africa 100,000,000 people without a written language, or even a dialect.

3. In the south end of Africa there are nearly five and a half million people, partly evangelized.

4. Pagan Africa comprises the greatest solid mass of paganism on earth.

5. Mohammedan Africa numbers at least 40,000,000 of population.

6. There is only a handful of missionaries to guard 3,000 miles of coast from Egypt to Gibraltar.

7. Fifty million people in Africa are outside any plan of any missionary society on earth.

8. On the whole continent of Africa, there are 3,244 missionaries.

9. Each missionary has a parish of 46,239 souls.

A Message to Virginia Women.

A real help is offered to you by the Committee of Publication (North Sixth Street, Richmond, Va.), free of cost, in the shape of a leaflet, "At Home and Abroad," which explains all the activities of our four Executive Committees.

Do let us send for this in sufficient

numbers to educate all the members of our societies.

See what knowing will do.

Carrie Lee Campbell,
Virginia Synodical Secretary Foreign Missions.

Mississippi Synodical will hold its fifth annual meeting in Tupelo, on September 12th-13th-14th. A full attendance is earnestly desired. All should notify Mrs. J. Q. Robins of the train and hour of arrival that entertainment may be provided.

Mrs. C. S. Everts,
Synodical Secretary.

A MISSIONARY LETTER.

Dear Fellow Workers:

The past month has been a busy one, and, of course, in that case there is much to write, but I will not have time to tell it all just now, and perhaps for that reason my letter will be the more acceptable.

The last part of January Mrs. Parker got the very worst kind of infection possible in her hand, and she had to have it cut up, and has been unable to use it since. Since it is her right hand, this has been very hard on her, and is still causing her a great deal of suffering. The doctor has had to cut it as many as six different times in some ten or twelve places, once under anaesthetic, and for ten days she had to stay in the hospital in bed. For a time the doctor feared that he would have to amputate it, and he was very uneasy about her, but our prayers and those of our friends have been answered, and we are most grateful to our heavenly Father for His watchfulness and care, and are thankful to say that she is gradually getting better. The doctor thinks we will be able to leave all right by the 27th. My work in the college begins the first of April, and we have to stop in Seoul for dental work and the Educational Senate meeting, so this will just give us time to get to Pyengyang and begin to try to get settled. We hope to have part of Dr. Baird's house there. My work will be the same as before—mathematics and some English in the college and local Sunday-school work; Mrs. Parker has already been asked to take charge of the work among women in the Fourth church. I hope she can get a little rest, as she needs it badly after her long siege of it and her continued work, in spite of her hand, in the Girls' School Industrial work here. She hates to give this up, for she has enjoyed it very much, and has made it pay well. For many reasons we are very sorry to have to leave Mokpo, but we will be glad to get more settled. This school session will close the 22nd here; I am trying to get everything ready for commencement (our school year is from April through the next March), and will be pretty busy up to the last. Dr. Nisbet will have charge of the school after I leave. The prospects are good in many ways.

From February 11th for ten days we had our yearly men's Bible class, the largest on record here, about two hundred and twenty coming in from the country, besides the local people. The men studied well, and all the teachers were well pleased and felt that they had received an inspiration from it all. I had the first year class in James and the Sermon on the Mount. There were five grades according to the number of years they had studied. Mr. Winn and Mr. Tate, of Chunju, and Dr. Swallen, of Pyengyang, helped us out in the teaching, and Dr. Swallen led revival services, all the results of which we feel sure we have not seen. Something held the local church back from receiving

the blessing that they should have, but all those from the country seem to have been especially helped. Dr. Swallen is certainly a man filled with the Spirit, and we missionaries, each and every one, received a great blessing through his message. As Miss Martin said, we felt when he delivered his message that it was direct from God, and every one could not but help mark his consecrated life in the service of his Master. All else went by, and his one thought was to bring the message that God gave him to these people.

The women's Bible class begins this week, and we are expecting a large number in. Remember the work in your prayers, the work here in Mokpo, and the work to which we are going in Pyengyang. Remember Mrs. Parker, and pray that if it is God's will she may not have to suffer any more. With all best wishes and prayers for all of you in your work, I am,

Sincerely yours,
Wm. P. Parker.

Mokpo, Korea.

THE PRAYER MEETING

BIBLE CAUSE.

Week Beginning Sept. 2, 1917.

By Rev. Andrew J. Howell.

The Bible is the book, as the origin of its name indicates. The inner bark of the papyrus was called "biblos," and when written upon "biblon." From this comes our word "Bible." So "Bible," from being a general term, has now become a particular name for the book. This is very significant.

The first book ever printed was the Bible. This was done at Mentz, in Germany, by Gutenberg, the reputed inventor of the art of printing, about the year 1450. This also is wonderfully significant; and, if we add another fact, that is, that the book most largely printed in the world is the Bible, we can form an idea of the great enterprise undertaken through the past four or five centuries by innumerable agencies to meet the demand for this book which the people need.

The Bible is a classic in the world's literature, which is unique in its widespread interest and in its remarkable preservation. The Old Testament was completed four hundred years before Christ, and no one has since then been able to disprove its authenticity or successfully find in it errors. Its prophecies have been fulfilled, and it opened the way for the New Testament, which came as its sequel. And the New Testament, as well as the Old, composed of the writings of various men at different times and in different places, forms a book of perfect coherence and unity. Altogether the Bible has stood the test of the ages, and it is now, in fact, the universal standard of human thought in government and personal morals. It has been utterly impossible to destroy it or counteract its influence. It has calmly passed through endless battles of criticism waged against it during the centuries; and the efforts of the present day to find flaws in it, which are becoming more and more feeble, will go the way of those in the past. The Bible will still remain the unimpeachable word of God.

In many respects, the Bible is one of simplest books which have ever been written. And it is the plainest in its speech. There is no policy in it. It is no respecter of persons. Yet its simple frankness does not offend, because those who read it know that it speaks the truth. And the truth is always irresistible and compelling.

No book has ever been studied more
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